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War Prisoner Administrative Office and Camp Classification

1. In May 1952 the War Prisoner Administrative Office (Chan Fu Kuan Li Ch'u) (2069/0199/4619/3810/5710) in P'yongyang, under Colonel No-men-ch'i-fu (6179/7024/1148/1133), an intelligence officer attached to the general headquarters of the Soviet Far Eastern Military District, controlled prisoner of war camps in Manchuria and North Korea. The office, formerly in Mukden, employed 30 persons, several of whom were English-speaking Soviets. LIN Mai (2651/6701) and NAM IL (0589/2480) were deputy chairmen of the office.
2. The office had developed three types of prisoner-of-war camps. Camps termed "peace camps," detaining persons who exhibited pro-Communist leanings, were characterized by considerate treatment of the prisoners and the staging within the camps of Communist rallies and meetings. The largest peace camp, which held two thousand prisoners, was at Chungchun. Peace camps were also at K'aiyuan Hsien (124-05, 42-36) and Pench'i (123-43, 41-20).
3. Reform camps, all of which were in Manchuria, detained anti-Communist prisoners possessing certain technical skills. Emphasis at these camps was on reindoctrination of the prisoners.

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4. Normal prisoner-of-war camps, all of which were in North Korea, detained prisoners whom the Communists will exchange. Prisoners in the peace and reform camps will not be exchanged.
5. Officials of North Korean prisoner of war camps sent reports on individual prisoners to the War Prisoner Administrative Office. Cooperative prisoners were being transferred to peace camps. ROK army officers were being shot; ROK army soldiers were being reindoctrinated and assimilated into the North Korean army.

Kangdong Camp

6. In May the largest North Korean prisoner of war camp, detaining twelve hundred prisoners, was near T'ai Ling (1132/1545) mountain, six miles southeast of the Kangdong (126-05, 39-09) (BU-4837) railroad station.¹ The compound, divided with barbed wire and mud embankments into four partitions for American, English, and Turkish prisoners and prisoners of other nationalities, held 840 American, 100 English, 60 Turkish, and 200 hundred French, Dutch, and Canadian troops. Most of the United States prisoners were members of the 1 Cavalry Division and the 24 Infantry Division. General William Dean was moved from Harbin and Mukden to this camp in 1951.
7. The Kangdong camp, organized into study, management, sanitation, and finance sections, compelled the prisoners to study for three hours, to labor for four hours, and to discuss political problems for two hours.
8. On 1 May nine thousand (sic) ROK army prisoners and fifty United Nations prisoners were in caves at the Kangdong camp, extending from approximately BU-492363 to BU-494368 in a valley at Adal-ni, Kangdong-myŏn (126-05, 39-09) (BU-4837).² Of the ROK army prisoners 10 percent were officers, 50 percent non-commissioned officers, and 40 percent privates. Of the United Nations prisoners 10 percent were Negroes. The prisoners, who received 600 grams of cereal and salt each day, were not required to work and spent only two hours each day out of the caves. An average of two prisoners were dying daily from malnutrition and eruptive typhus. The majority of prisoners at this camp were extremely anti-Communist in thinking. Three North Korean army guards, armed with PPSH's and rifles, were at the entrance of each cave.

Camp Number 106, Mirim

9. On 1 May approximately sixteen hundred ROK army prisoners of war, including one hundred officers and five hundred non-commissioned officers, were at the North Korean prisoner of war camp number 106 at approximately YD-472214, 1.6 kilometers southwest of the Mirim railroad station (125-51, 39-01) (YD-4722). Prisoners held here, having been pressed through five ideological screenings, were believed to be potential converts to Communism. The prisoners believed that they were to be assimilated into the North Korean army. Members of political and security detachments maintained strict surveillance of the prisoners. The surveillance often was carried out by members of these bureaus who entered the camps disguised as prisoners.
10. Each prisoner received 50 won monthly, 1 kilogram of grain and 45 grams of soy bean oil, vegetables, salt, and soy bean paste daily. The prisoners were wearing North Korean army uniforms. The prisoners were constructing air raid shelters near the Mirim-ni airfield ten hours each day. Two hours of indoctrination lectures were also held daily. The prisoners had been organized into squads of ten men. Each of the camp's four battalions had three platoons and each platoon, four squads. A guard platoon, armed with M-1's, carbines, and PPSH's, was at the camp.

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Suan

11. On 5 May 200 ROK army prisoners and 110 prisoners from other United Nations armies including 80 Negroes, were at the North Korean prisoner of war camp at the site of the former Suan mine (126-23, 38-47) (BT-7396), ten kilometers north of Suan (126-22, 38-42) (BT-7186).³ Lieutenant Colonel KIM Kyu-hwan (6855/1145/3562) commanded the camp. Although other United Nations prisoners were not required to work, the ROK army prisoners constructed shelters and trenches throughout the entire day. The prisoners received only rice balls for food. Several of the other United Nations prisoners had obtained wheat paste from villagers in exchange for watches and other personal possessions. Thereafter the villagers were prohibited from entering the camp area. No sanitary facilities were offered to the prisoners. Approximately fifteen prisoners, including both ROK and United Nations personnel, were too ill to stand.

Sariwŏn

12. In late April approximately eight hundred United Nations prisoners were in a series of underground shelters at approximately YC-436673 in a valley between two hills four kilometers northeast of the Sariwŏn railroad station (125-46, 38-30) (YC-4064). On each side of the valley at the base of the two hills were 25 shelters. One shelter in every five accommodated the camp guards. Eight hundred Chinese Communist soldiers, armed with PPSH's and rifles, guarded the area. Dummy guards were also used at night. The majority of the guards were billeted in a nearby village of fifteen homes. The guard billets were easily visible from the air. Each prisoner received pork soup and 600 grams of cereal three times daily and a package of cigarettes each day. The prisoners were required to work for one hour and attend indoctrination meetings for two hours daily.

Mukden

13. On 6 January 1952 four hundred United States prisoners, including three hundred Negroes, were being detained in two buildings at Hsiao Nan Kuan Chieh, at the southeast corner of the intersection, in Mukden. One building, used as the police headquarters in Hsiao Nan Kuan during the Japanese occupation, was a two-story concrete structure, 30 meters long and 20 meters wide. The other building, one story high and constructed of gray brick, was behind the two-story building. Both buildings had tile roofs. All prisoners held here, with the exception of three second lieutenants, were enlisted personnel. The prisoners, dressed in Chinese Communist army uniforms, with a red arm band on the left arm, were not required to work. Two hours of indoctrination were conducted daily by staff members of the Northeast Army Command. Prisoners were permitted to play basketball in the courtyard. The attempt of three white prisoners to escape caused the withdrawal of permission for white prisoners to walk alone through streets in the vicinity of the camp. Two Chinese Communist soldiers guarded groups of white prisoners when such groups left the buildings. Negroes, however, could move outside the compound area freely and individually. Rice, noodles, and one vegetable were served daily to the prisoners in groups of 10 to 15 men. One platoon of Chinese Communist soldiers guarded the compound.

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1. Comment. In late February 1952 two thousand prisoners, slightly inclined toward Communism, were being detained at the base of a mountain three kilometers west of Kangdong, according to and referenced 50X1-HUM reports.
2. Comment. This is presumably information on the same camp as that reported in paragraphs 6-7 above.
3. Comment. In March approximately 4,300 ROK prisoners, chiefly officers, were at the Suan camp, according to 50X1-HUM

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